

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 SS-15 DOE-15 SOE-02
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P 212149Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 212186

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, TECH, MNUC

SUBJECT: STATUS OF SPANISH NUCLEAR FACILITIES AND IAEA
SAFEGUARDS OBLIGATIONS

REF: STATE 188829

1. REFTEL REFERS TO NEED FOR SPANISH TO PUT VANDELLOS
REACTOR UNDER IAEA SAFEGUARDS. AS NOTED, UNDER THE
NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION ACT, A RECIPIENT COUNTRY MUST
HAVE ALL ITS NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES UNDER IAEA SAFEGUARDS FOR
EXPORTS PURSUANT TO AN APPLICATION MADE AFTER SEPTEMBER 10,
1979 OR PURSUANT TO ANY APPLICATION UNDER WHICH THE FIRST
EXPORT WOULD OCCUR AFTER MARCH 10, 1980. THE EXECUTIVE
BRANCH CANNOT MAKE A FAVORABLE RECOMMENDATION ON THE EXPORT
APPLICATIONS CITED REFTEL UNTIL THERE IS CONCRETE ACTION BY
GOS TO ENSURE THAT ALL SPANISH NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES WILL BE
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UNDER IAEA SAFEGUARDS BY THAT TIME.

2. TO ENSURE THAT OUR APPROACH TO THE GOS ON THIS ISSUE
COVERS ALL NECESSARY ASPECTS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY
ASSESSMENT OF THE STATUS OF THREE OTHER FACILITIES (NAMELY,
THE ARBI AND ARGOS RESEARCH REACTORS AND THE PILOT REPRO-
CESSING PLANT AT THE JUAN VIGON CENTER). WE UNDERSTAND

THAT THE RESEARCH REACTORS ARE CURRENTLY SAFEGUARDED ONLY

BY VIRTUE OF US FUEL SUPPLY BUT HAVE NO OBLIGATIONS ON THE FACILITIES PER SE. IF AT ANY TIME US FUEL TRIGGERING IAEA SAFEGUARDS WERE NOT IN THESE FACILITIES, WE WOULD HAVE TO BE SATISFIED THAT SOME ALTERNATE ARRANGEMENTS WERE IN FORCE TO ENSURE APPLICATION OF IAEA SAFEGUARDS WHENEVER NUCLEAR MATERIAL PRESENT. SAME WOULD HOLD FOR THE PILOT REPROCESSING PLANT IF IT WERE OPERATIONAL.

3. THERE MAY BE OTHER SPANISH NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES, INVOLVING SOURCE OR SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL, WHICH WOULD REQUIRE SAFEGUARDS TO PERMIT US EXPORTS UNDER APPLICATIONS CITED PARA 1. IN THIS REGARD, SPANISH HAVE ASKED US IN PAST PRECISELY WHAT ACTIVITIES WOULD NEED TO BE SAFEGUARDED TO MEET FUTURE DE FACTO FULL-SCOPE SAFEGUARDS REQUIREMENT FOR US EXPORTS. THIS WHOLE MATTER WILL REQUIRE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN SPANISH AUTHORITIES AND IAEA TO DETERMINE WHAT ACTIVITIES SPANISH HAVE WHICH WOULD, UNDER IAEA SYSTEM, NORMALLY INVOLVE SAFEGUARDS OBLIGATIONS.

4. AS EMBASSY AWARE, OUR FIRST PREFERENCE WOULD BE SPANISH ADHERENCE TO NPT AND NEGOTIATION OF A FULL-SCOPE INFCIRC/153 AGREEMENT WITH THE IAEA PURSUANT TO THE TREATY. PENDING THIS, SPANISH COULD NEGOTIATE A FULL-SCOPE SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT SIMILAR TO AN INFCIRC/153
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AGREEMENT, INVOLVING A GOS COMMITMENT TO MAINTAIN IAEA SAFEGUARDS ON ALL SPANISH NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES, AN INFCIRC/66 TYPE AGREEMENT COVERING ALL FACILITIES, OR A SERIES OF INFCIRC/66 TYPE AGREEMENTS INVOLVING IAEA SAFEGUARDS ON INDIVIDUAL FACILITIES. ANY OF THE ABOVE APPROACHES WOULD SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION ACT.

5. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSESSMENT OF STATUS OF ABOVE MENTIONED THREE FACILITIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. FURTHER GUIDANCE FOR APPROACH TO GOS ON THESE MATTERS WILL THE FOLLOW. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 21 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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